

A THOUGHT OF THE RESURRECTION.

The hills that were hid in the darkness
Through the winter time and the snow
Have left the thrill of the sunlight.
Their love to blight they know.

Father and child and mother
And what as the robes of a king,
To the city of love it comes,
Their beauties with them bring.

The grass that was brown and withered
And cold on the golden plain
Has been lit by the tender sunshine,
Came back to life with a smile
And the bright green leaves quiver,
Let us all in with a strain,
And the bird, with herlings among them,
Flies up with a sudden song.

And we, who have seen our darlings
Born from off-life every day,
Who have lived in silent anguish
Over the cold and hopeless clay,
Take heart in the Easter gladness,
A parable all may read,

For the Lord who cares for the flowers
Cares still for our greater need,
He knows of the less and anguish.
The cross of the stricken soul,
He will bring again our dears ones,
By his touch of life made whole.

We shall need and love them
In the spring beyond the sea,
That after earth's dreary winter,
Is coming to us all.

—Mrs. M. E. Carpenter.

EASTER IN MINGIN'S ALLEY.

BY KATE JORDAN.

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"Is this Mingin's alley?"

"Yes, that it is."

"Does Mrs. Terry Mason live here?"

"She do. Just beyond that fog-dure,
One flight up, back, you'll find her."

"Thank you."

They stood at the entrance to the alleyway, so chill, so damp this cloudy day of early spring—an old woman in a shabby quilted bonnet, a market basket on her arm, her emaciated, bony face faintly quivering with curiosity, and a footman-like dark green beret, as carefully groomed as the master who sent him.

He suddenly vaulted toward sight in Mingin's alley—so unusual indeed that old Mrs. Ryan could scarcely get her breath back as she looked after him.

"Well, well, well! Upon my word, but that's all I must say! Mrs. Terry Mason! I should have fallen back a little higher than ever now had she not a ladylike buck like that comin' with letters to see her. Oh, my, but this is a wicked world! Who is Mrs. Mason anyway, and why does such an arish young piece live in Mingin's alley, and where's her husband, and why do the looks of that ratkin come after her? Faith, I have my doubts about these nice going, soft voiced, standifish sort of people! I'd a dairg on which would she take will me avil on the blessed Christmas day? No use tryin' to be friendly with the looks of her. She's got too many friends amon' the upper ten not fit to look an honest woman in the face. I'll be bound, if the thruth was told! Well, well, what'll Mrs. Mason likely say to this when I see her at the markoy?"

It was a choice bit of news, and Mrs. Mary Ann Ryan of Mingin's alley looked forward to rebelling over a glass of whiskey, just as Miss Manhattan at 5 o'clock tea rattles the skeletons her absent friend's think hidden.

Meanwhile the footman went on, gaily picking his way over the muddy pavements until he came to the door in the small rear house to which he had been directed.

It was still wintry and cold in the passageway, but when the door was opened to his knock there was something spring-

hopelessly lame, his tiny crutch the very saddest thing he had ever seen.

He stood for a moment looking from the downcast head of his young mother to the footman's now impulsive face.

"You made her cry." And the flaxen curls fell in a tossing angry mass over his accusing eyes. "You're a bad man. You made her cry—disibery!"

He hobbled to his mother's side, forced her head up with his mites of hands and looked inquiringly at her white face.

"Mammy, tell Ted," he whispered.

"Oh, my darling," and she hung her arms around him, "if we could both die! If you and I, Ted, could just find rest. It's a sorry old game, this life, dear. It's a cold, horrid, old world, my baby. I begin to think there isn't room for us here."

She kissed him on the lifted baby brow, closed her dry lips, and replacing the letter in its envelope handed it to the footman.

"Take that back," she said in an icy, level tone.

"What answer, madam?"

"No answer. Just take it back."

"But Mr. Trevelyan?"

"Go. Tell my father—tell Mr. Trevelyan," she said, hurriedly correcting herself—"that I cannot answer it as I would if he stood here before me."

"He might com' himself, madam."

"And the way I would answer it is this! I'd tear it to bits and cast them in his merciless face!"

Long after the door had closed upon the footman she sat there, white, silent, unmindful even of Ted's furtive caresses, and tender questioning. She seemed to see the words of that cruel letter still before her—yes, every sentence was burned on her brain.

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